

NUMBER OF GENERAL PRACTITIONERS

The number of general practitioners in England in 1971 increased by 275 to 19,374. This is the largest increase for ten years.

COST OF THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

The total cost of the health and personal services was £1,988,000,000 in the financial year 1970-71.

M.D.

Dr R. H. Wilkins has recently been awarded an M.D. degree from Manchester University for his thesis on *The detection of the abnormal drinker in general practice*.

MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY

The Department of general practice at Manchester University is holding a scientific meeting for members of staff of departments of general practice from 29-30 June, 1973.

Teachers' course

The 1973 general-practitioner teachers' course will be held by the department on 17-21 September, 1973.

WOMEN DOCTORS' RETAINER SCHEME

A new scheme to help married women doctors to continue in medicine while bringing up their children, which is to be introduced by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Social Services, was formally communicated to the National Health Service authorities on 28 July, 1972 in a memorandum which is available from the Department of Health and Social Security.

The scheme comes into operation on 1 September. It will be open to any doctor under 55 years of age who cannot practise because of family commitments, but intends to resume a medical career in the National Health Service—in the hospital service, public health service or general practice—when these commitments lighten.

Membership will enable a doctor to do a small number of specially arranged, paid clinical sessions, and attend some sessions of

postgraduate medical education. Members will also receive an annual retainer of £50 to cover expenses.

VASECTOMY

It has been reported that the Government intends to find time, possibly in October, for the Bill to enable local authorities to provide vasectomy under the National Health Service.

GENERAL-PRACTITIONER PAPERS

1. Barson M. & Wood C. (1972). A survey of the role of the general practitioner in family planning. *Medical Journal of Australia*, **1**, 1069-1071. (Australian College survey.)
2. BLOOMFIELD, E. (1972). Vasectomy and intravenous anaesthesia in a health centre. *Practitioner*, **209**, 76-78.
3. BRIDGES-WEBB, C. (1972). Drug medication in the community. *Medical Journal of Australia*, **1**, 675-679.
4. BUTSON, F. J. & SANGSTER, J. F. (1972). A perspective on preceptor teaching. *Canadian Family Physician*, **18**, 73-76. (University of Western Ontario.)
5. CALVERT, F. R. Hawthorne, V. M., Mann, P. G. & Sandys, G. H. (1972). Bacteriuria in a Scottish island community. *Journal of Hygiene*, Cambridge, **70**, 105-112.
6. CAVANAGH, A. J. M. & RINTOUL, R. F. (1972). Cancer of the bowel. *British Medical Journal*, **3**, 165-166.
7. Community virus infections in Gloucestershire. (1972). *Community Medicine*, **128**, 283-284. (Group of Gloucestershire general practitioners, M.O.H. and P.H.L. officials collect information.)
8. CORMACK, J. J. C. (1972). An MD thesis as a base for action. *Update*, **4**, 1481-1484.
9. CURTIS, D. M. (1972). Annual reports from general practice, 1970. Hadfield. *Update*, **4**, 1525-1535.
10. ELLIOTT, C. & BACKSTROM, D. (1972). Referral patterns in general practice. Report of a pilot survey. *Australian Family Physician*, **1**, 155-156. (Figures for 16 doctors' work for one month.)
11. Forsell, P. (1972). Antibiotic prescribing in general practice. *Medical Journal of Australia*, **1**, 1084-1087.
12. FREELING, P. (1972). Patients and doctors. *Medical Digest*, **17**, No. 6, 18-28.

13. FRY, J. & Farndale, W. A. J. (Edits.) (1972). *International medical care*. A comparison and evaluation of medical care services throughout the world. Oxford & Lancaster: M.T.P.
14. GOODMAN, E. (1972). Early diagnosis of carcinoma of the stomach. *Australian Family Physician*, **1**, 144-146.
15. GOWEN, J. P. (1972). A report from general practice in Ireland. *Journal of the Irish Medical Association*, **65**, 157-168. (37 doctors co-operate in study of work load and morbidity.)
16. GRAINGER, G. J. (1972). A clinical study of 'Limbitrol' in the treatment of anxiety-depression in general practice. *Practitioner*, **208**, 807-809.
17. GROB, P. R. & GIBBS, F. J. (1972). The use of human chorionic gonadotrophin levels in assessing the prognosis of threatened abortion. *Practitioner*, **209**, 79-81.
18. HARRIS, C. M. (1972). Tiredness and headaches. *Practitioner*, **208**, 845-850.
19. HOGG, P. S. (1972). Three cases of 'restless legs' or 'Ekbom's syndrome' as seen in general practice. *Practitioner*, **209**, 82-83.
20. Holland, W. W. & MORRELL, D. C. (1972). A marriage of convenience? *British Journal of Medical Education*, **6**, 121-124. (Disciplines of epidemiologist, social scientist, and general practitioner discussed.)
21. Hordern, A. & WHEATLEY, D. (1972). The black cloud. The recognition and treatment of endogenous depression in general practice. *Medical Journal of Australia*, **1**, 637-643.
22. LEE, J. A. (1972). The general practitioner tutor and his relationship with the clinical tutor. *From*. Second Annual Meeting of the National Association of Clinical Tutors, 1971.
23. MCGUINNESS, B. W. (1972). Continuing professional education in a rural community. *Update*, **5**, 81-85.
24. MONASSO, J. (1972). Self-treatment in the family. *Huisarts en Wetenschap*, **15**, 175-181. (English summary.)
25. MORRELL, D. C. (1972). Teaching in general practice. *Medical Teacher*, **1**, No. 7, 5-9.
26. MUECKE, D. (1972). The routine surveillance of the infant. *Australian Family Physician*, **1**, 126-130.
27. PACY, H. (1972). Rescue and first aid for our highways. *Medical Journal of Australia*, **1**, 704-707.
28. PERKIN, J. M. (1972). Allergy in general practice. *Practitioner*, **208**, 776-783.
29. POLLAK, B. (1972). A follow-up scheme for gastrectomized patients in general practice. *Practitioner*, **208**, 817-823.
30. REDDEN, C. S. (1972). Case study: four family physicians form a group practice. *Canadian Family Physician*, **18**, No. 5, 33.
31. REEDY, B. L. E. C. (1972). The general practice nurse. *Update*, **5**, 75-78.
32. RHODES, D. J. & Hadfield, G. J. (1972). Treatment of varicose veins by injection and compression. *Practitioner*, **208**, 809-817.
33. ROSS, J. (1972). A study of morbidity in family practice. *Canadian Family Physician*, **18**, No. 5, 105-115.
34. ROSS, P. W. (1972). Antibiotic treatment of sore throat in Edinburgh children. *Practitioner*, **209**, 47-52. (Survey by the S.E. Scotland Faculty, R.C.G.P.)
35. STARTE, G. D. (1971). 'Child's play' or paediatric developmental assessment in general practice. *Practitioner*, **209**, 84-89.
36. STEPHEN, J. (1972). Lessons from the U.S.S.R. *Practitioner*, **208**, 824-831.
37. THOMPSON, M. K. (1972). Geriatric psychiatry and the general practitioner. *Update*, **4**, 1283-1290.
38. THOMPSON, M. K. (1972). Investigation and treatment of the elderly patient in general practice. *Update*, **4**, 1505-1513.
39. WESTON, W. W. (1972). Emotional problem—a family affair. *Canadian Family Physician*, **18**, 60-64.
40. WHEATLEY, D. (1972). Evaluation of psychotropic drugs in general practice. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of Medicine*, **65**, 317-320.
41. YELLOWLEES, W. (1972). Stress and disease. *Update*, **4**, 1443-1450.

HELP FOR THE DISABLED

A new international symbol has recently been adopted by eight Council of Europe member states—Austria, Belgium, Germany, France, Italy, Luxembourg, Holland and the United Kingdom. This symbol which will be white on a blue background represents a disabled person seated on a wheelchair.

It will be attached to public buildings where the main door either has no steps or possesses a ramp and where doorways and other entrances are at least 80 centimetres (32 inches) wide; and where lavatories and lifts are large enough for wheelchairs.